

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-99 (Canceled).

100. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 108, wherein thermoforming the container comprises at least one drape, vacuum, pressure, free blowing, billow drape, vacuum snap-back, billow vacuum, plug assist vacuum, plug assist pressure, pressure reverse draw with plug assist vacuum, reverse draw with plug assist, pressure bubble immersion, trapped sheet, slip, diaphragm, twin-sheet cut sheet, twin-sheet rolled forming, and pillow forming.
101. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 108, wherein thermoforming the container comprises vacuum forming the container in a mold controlled to form the micronodular surface on the surface of the container not in contact with the mold surface.
102. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 108, wherein the extruded sheet further comprises at least one additive selected from the group consisting of coupling agents, process aids, lubricants, nucleating agents, antistatic agents, antioxidants, and coloring agents.
103. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 108, wherein at least one additive is present in the mixture.
104. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 102, wherein a coupling agent is present in the mixture, and the coupling agent comprises at least one of: silanes; organofunctional silicone compounds; chlorinated hydrocarbons with and without silane; in situ

polymerization products of monomers; modified polyolefins; maleic anhydride; acrylic modified polypropylene; and maleic anhydride modified polypropylene.

105. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 102, wherein a process aid is present in the mixture, and the process aid comprises at least one of waxes and fluorinated polymers.
106. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 102, wherein a coloring agent is present, and the coloring agent comprises at least one of pigments and dyes.
107. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 106, wherein the pigments comprises at least one of carbon black, titanium dioxide, zinc oxide, iron oxides, and mixed metal oxides.
108. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a container comprising:
- (a) providing at least one matte extruded sheet prepared from a mixture of:
 - i) mica; and
 - ii) a polyolefin comprising polypropylene, polypropylene polyethylene copolymer or a blend of polypropylene and polyethylene, and
 - (b) thermoforming the sheet at a temperature of about 265°F to 305°F, thereby providing a container that:
 - i) is dimensionally stable;
 - ii) is resistant to deformation from grease, sugar or water contact at a temperature of up to at least about 220°F;
 - iii) is resistant to cutting by serrated polystyrene flatware;
 - iv) has a melting point at a temperature of no less than about 250°F; and
 - v) has a micronodular surface, and a non-micronodular surface, wherein the micronodular surface has a surface roughness that is greater than a surface roughness of the non-micronodular surface and wherein the at least one matte extruded sheet is formed by utilizing a matte roll in [[the]] a chill roll stack portion of the extrusion process.

109. (Canceled)

110. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a container comprising a first side and a food contact side:
- (a) providing at least one matte extruded sheet prepared from a mixture of:
 - i) mica; and
 - ii) a polyolefin comprising polypropylene, polypropylene polyethylene copolymer or a blend of polypropylene and polyethylene, and
 - (b) thermoforming the sheet at a temperature of at least about 265° F to 305° F thereby providing a container that:
 - i) is dimensionally stable;
 - ii) is resistant to deformation from grease, sugar or water contact at a temperature of at least about 220°F;
 - iii) is resistant to cutting by serrated polystyrene flatware;
 - iv) has a melting point at a temperature of no less than about 250°F; and
 - v) wherein said first side comprises a non-micronodular surface and said food contact side comprises a micronodular surface and wherein the at least one matte extruded sheet is formed by utilizing a matte roll in [[the]] a chill roll stack portion of the extrusion process.
111. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 110, wherein thermoforming the container comprises at least one drape, vacuum, pressure, free blowing, billow drape, vacuum snap-back, billow vacuum, plug assist vacuum, plug assist pressure, pressure reverse draw with plug assist vacuum, reverse draw with plug assist, pressure bubble immersion, trapped sheet, slip, diaphragm, twin-sheet cut sheet rolled forming, and pillow forming.
112. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 110, wherein thermoforming the container comprises vacuum forming the container in a mold controlled to form the micronodular surface of the container not in contact with the mold surface.

- 113. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 110, wherein the extruded sheet further comprises at least one additive chosen from coupling agents, process aids, lubricants, nucleating agents, antistatic agents, antioxidants, and coloring agents.
- 114. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 110, wherein at least one additive is present in the mixture.
- 115. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 113, wherein the coupling agents comprises at least one of: silanes; organofunctional silicone compounds; chlorinated hydrocarbons with and without silane; in situ polymerization products of monomers; modified polyolefins; maleic anhydride; acrylic modified polypropylene; and maleic anhydride modified polypropylene.
- 116. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 113, wherein the process aid comprises at least one of waxes and fluorinated polymers.
- 117. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 113, wherein the coloring agent comprises at least one of pigments and dyes.
- 118. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 117, wherein the pigments comprises at least of carbon black, titanium dioxide, zinc oxide, iron oxides, and mixed metal oxides.